

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-13. (cancelled)

14. (previously presented) The hydraulic system of claim 24, wherein the head is supported in a sealed manner in the slide bore.

15. (previously presented) The hydraulic system of claim 24, wherein the head divides the slide bore into a vented chamber.

16. (previously presented) The hydraulic system of claim 24, further including a compression spring to pre-tension the slide, the spring including a first end abutting the head and a second end abutting an abutment.

17. (previously presented) The hydraulic system of claim 16, wherein the abutment is adjustable.

18. (currently amended) The hydraulic system of claim 16, wherein the compression spring is arranged in [[a]] the chamber.

19. (previously presented) The hydraulic system of claim 24, wherein the blocking portion is connected to the head by a pin portion having a diameter that is smaller than a diameter of the blocking portion.

20. (cancelled)

21. (cancelled)

22. (previously presented) The hydraulic system of claim 24, wherein the blocking portion has a diameter which is slightly smaller than a diameter of a section of the slide bore

accommodating the head, such that the slide bore defines a damping gap with the blocking portion when the blocking portion is moved toward the blocking position.

23. (previously presented) The hydraulic system of claim 24, wherein the diameter of the slide bore is at least as large as the diameter of the passage channel.

24. (currently amended) A hydraulic system including a hydraulic pump, a load, an actuator for moving the load, a control valve fluidly connected to the actuator, at least two branches parallel to each other and fluidly connected between the hydraulic pump and the control valve with each branch including at least one damper, and at least one slide valve arranged in one of the branches, the slide valve comprising:

a valve housing having a passage channel with a slide bore extending in a direction transverse to the passage channel; and

a slide supported within and longitudinally movable relative to the slide bore between an open position and a blocking position, the slide having a head, a blocking portion defining ~~the~~ a blocking position when the blocking portion is aligned with the passage channel, and a pin portion connecting the head to the blocking portion and defining ~~the~~ an open position when the pin portion is aligned with the passage channel, wherein the blocking portion divides the slide bore into a chamber,

wherein at least one channel is provided that permits fluid communication between the chamber and the passage channel, thereby allowing the chamber to be subjected to the fluid pressure prevailing in the passage channel,

wherein, when the pressure in the passage channel exceeds a predetermined fluid pressure, the slide moves to its blocking position.

25. (cancelled)

26. (cancelled)

27. (previously presented) The hydraulic system of claim 24, further comprising a compression spring for providing a spring force that urges the slide toward the open position against the fluid pressure in the passage channel, wherein the spring force is sized such that:

when the fluid pressure prevailing within the passage channel is less than the predetermined fluid pressure, the slide remains in its open position, and

when the fluid pressure prevailing within the passage channel is greater than the predetermined fluid pressure, the slide moves to its blocking position.

28. (previously presented) The hydraulic system of claim 24, wherein the at least one channel is provided in the blocking portion of the slide.

29. (previously presented) The hydraulic system of claim 24, wherein the at least one channel includes a bypass channel provided in the valve housing upstream from the slide.

30. (previously presented) A hydraulic system comprising:

a hydraulic pump,

an actuator for moving a load;

a control valve fluidly connected to the actuator;

at least two branches fluidly connected between the pump and the control valve, each branch including at least one damper; and

a pressure sensitive, shut-off valve provided in one of the branches, the shut-off valve including:

a valve housing having a passage channel with a slide bore extending in a direction traverse to the passage channel, and

a slide supported in the slide bore so as to be moveable in the traverse direction within the slide bore between an open position permitting flow through the passage channel and a closing position preventing flow through the passage channel,

wherein the slide is configured to switch from its open position to its closed position when the pressure in the passage channel exceeds a predetermined pressure limit.

31. (previously presented) The hydraulic system of claim 30, wherein the shut-off valve is provided between the pump and the damper.

32. (previously presented) The hydraulic system of claim 30, wherein the slide includes a head, a blocking portion that defines the blocking position, and a pin portion that connects the head to the blocking portion and defines the open position.

33. (previously presented) The hydraulic system of claim 32, wherein the blocking portion divides the slide bore into a chamber, wherein at least one channel is provided that permits fluid communication between the chamber and the passage channel, thereby allowing the chamber to be subjected to the fluid pressure prevailing in the passage channel,

wherein, when the pressure in the passage channel exceeds a predetermined pressure limit, the slide moves from its open position to its blocking position.

34. (previously presented) The hydraulic system of claim 33, wherein the at least one channel is provided in the blocking portion of the slide.

35. (previously presented) The hydraulic system of claim 33, wherein the at least one channel includes a bypass channel provided in the valve housing.

36. (previously presented) The hydraulic system of claim 30, further comprising a compression spring for providing a spring force that urges the slide toward the open position against the fluid pressure in the passage channel, wherein the spring force is sized such that:

when the pressure prevailing within the passage channel is less than the predetermined pressure limit, the slide remains in its open position, and

when the pressure prevailing within the passage channel is greater than the predetermined pressure limit, the slide moves from its open position to its blocking position.

37-40. (cancelled)